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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

PLEASE



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59620



August 1, 1983

Re: Preliminary Environmental Review
Julius Pilati Proposed Landfill

Board of County Commissioners, Carbon County Courthouse, Red Lodge, MT
Bill King, R.S. and Co. Planner, P. O. Box 460, Red Lodge, MT
Ron Kotar, Mayor, City of Red Lodge, P. O. Box 507, Red Lodge, MT
Doug Olsen, Pioneer Realty, Drawer A, Red Lodge, MT
William Fitzgerald, Attorney, 206 N 27th, Billings, MT
Doug Hart, Box 3270, Route #2, Red Lodge, MT
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Bldg, Rm. 432, Helena, MT
Tom Ellerhoff, Environmental Sciences Division, DHES, Helena, MT
1 Harold Chambers, MT State Library, Capitol Complex, Helena, MT
Julius Pilati, P. O. Box 606, Red Lodge, MT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, 16.2.604,
the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the
Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the Julius
Pilati proposed landfill site northwest of Red Lodge.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform
all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of
the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have
a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary
Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15)
days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within
the allotted time.

Sincerely,

JOHN C. GEACH
Solid Waste Management Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

AUG 8 - 1983

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1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

JCG:vc
Encls.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 449-2821

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid Waste Management Bureau

Project or Application Julius Pilati Class II Landfill

Description of Project Mr. Julius Pilati has submitted to this department a
solid waste management system license application for a 10 acre Class II
landfill to be located approximately 6.5 miles northwest of Red Lodge, MT.
This proposed landfill would serve Red Lodge and vicinity.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats				X		
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution			X			X
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture			X			X
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			X
5. Aesthetics			X			X
6. Air quality			X			X
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy			X			X
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural or industrial production			X			X
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment			X			X
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			X
11. Industrial & commercial activity				X		
12. Demands for energy			X			X
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows			X			X

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Carbon County Health Department

Carbon County Planning Board

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. Soil Conservation Service

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS No EIS necessary

PER Prepared by: John C. Geach
JOHN C. GEACH

Date: August 1, 1983

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

2. Water quality, quantity and distribution

The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) hydrogeological report for this proposed landfill indicates the pollution potential to the areas ground and surface waters is low if landfilling is only conducted on the top 10 acres of the hill located within the site and if leachate reduction methods are used. These methods would include diverting drainage from the working portions of the site and contouring and grading final filled areas to facilitate drainage and eliminate surface water ponding.

The soils found in the site are very impermeable and the area's usable ground water is two hundred feet below the landfill site according to SCS. These factors coupled with the impermeable bedrock layers below the site, decrease the chances of contaminating this ground water source to a negligible level.

Any leachate formed by the landfill could percolate to the shallow bedrock layer beneath the site. Due to the geology of the area, this leachate could travel laterally and surface as leachate seeps along the landfill's hilltop. If this were to occur, these seeps could be controlled, contained and treated within the landfill.

3. Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture

Normal landfill operations modify the soils moisture and stability characteristics within the filled area. Some minor settling may occur over completed trench areas. However, with proper grading and re-dressing of these areas, no serious or long term settling problems should result.

4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality

The area currently contains native vegetation including sagebrush and native grasses. This vegetation will be disturbed during landfilling. The proposed operation plan for the landfill indicates filled areas will be contoured and revegetated with crested wheat grass on a continued basis as the landfilling progresses. The overall vegetative disturbance should therefore be short-term and vegetation should quickly re-establish on the filled portions of the site.

5. Aesthetics

Landfill cut and fill operations affect the natural aesthetics of any area. These affects are relatively short term and when the site is completed and revegetated the contours of the landfill can be designed and installed to allow the site to blend into the natural terrain. Litter and other aesthetically objectionable aspects of a disposal site can be minimized by proper landfill operation and good site management.



The proposed operation and maintenance plan for this site indicates litter will be controlled by perimeter litter fencing and manual litter collection by landfill personnel. In addition, if needed portable litter fencing will be used around the active fill area.

6. Air quality

The operation of a landfill results in the generation of dust and equipment exhaust emissions. Control procedures can be taken at the site to limit these sources of air pollution to acceptable levels. In addition, licensed landfills can obtain state air quality burning permits to burn clean, untreated wood wastes. Emissions from the periodic burning of these materials should have minor impacts on the area's air quality.

8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air and energy.

This proposed landfill site currently has a limited animal grazing potential. Landfilling in this site will temporarily remove several acres at a time from grazing.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

4. Agricultural or industrial production

See #8 "Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air and energy."

8. Quantity and distribution of employment

The proposed landfill will require several equipment operating and site supervising employees. These jobs will only slightly affect the area employment.

10. Demands for government services.

Governmental services will be required on the local and state level for inspectional and administrative services associated with the issuance of a solid waste management system license to this landfill.



12. Demands for energy.

Gasoline, diesel fuel and other petroleum products will be consumed in the transportation of refuse to the landfill site and in the operation of the equipment needed at the site to properly operate the landfill.

14. Transportation networks and traffic flows.

It is anticipated this proposed landfill will serve the population of the Red Lodge area. With this type of useage, the roads leading to the site will experience a significant increase in traffic. Associated with this increased traffic flow will be increased road maintenance, snow removal, dust generation and possible roadside litter.



